

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AS-01

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R 171558Z NOV 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1668

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2300

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, GW, EC, UR

SUBJECT: PLANNED MEETING IN BERLIN OF PRESIDUM
OF EC PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

REF: BONN 18696

1. WE AGREE WITH EMBASSY VIEW THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY
BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO TRY TO TURN OFF AT THIS LATE
DATE NEXT MONTH'S MEETING OF PRESIDUM OF EC
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY. WE DOUBT THAT FRENCH WOULD
WISH TO TAKE ON THEMSELVES ONUS OF OBJECTING WITHIN
EC TO LEGITIMATE REPEAT OF A MEETING WHICH HAS
OCCURRED PREVIOUSLY IN QA PERIOD. WERE FRENCH TO
DO SO, IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY PRODUCE POLITICAL STORM
IN BERLIN WHERE MEETING HAS ALREADY BEEN MENTIONED IN
PRESS. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, WE WOULD VERY MUCH
HOPE THAT FRG AS WELL AS FRENCH AND UK CAN USE THEIR
GOOD OFFICES TO ENCOURAGE MEETING PARTICIPANTS NOT
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TO SEEK OUT PRESS AND IN PARTICULAR TO AVOID

PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION ISSUE.

2. WHILE WE BELIEVE MEETING IS LEGITIMATE AND SHOULD NOT BE CALLED OFF, IT ONLY FAIR TO REPORT THAT UK BONN GROUP REP'S INFO ON SOVIET REACTION TO 1973 MEETING IS NOT COMPLETE. WHILE SOVIETS DID NOT MAKE FORMAL PROTEST TO ALLIES, THEY DID GIVE UNMISTAKABLE INDICATION OF THEIR UNHAPPINESS. EMBASSY SECOND SECRETARY BURDAKIN CRITICIZED MEETING, PARTIUCULARLY AGENDA, TO THEN SENAT PRESS SPOKESMAN HERZ FEB 16, 1973. ADN PUBLISHED STATEMENT FEB 25, DAY BEFORE MEETING, CALLING GATHERING CONTRARY TO QA AND AN ATTEMPT BY BONN POLITICIANS TO "EXPLOIT WESTERN EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY INSTITUTIONS IN THEIR EFFORT TO TREAT WESTBERLIN AS LAND OF FRG." SOVIET PRESS REPS (IZVESTIYA AND NOVOSTI) ALSO MADE DISAPPROVING NOISES AT MEETING OF GERMAN'-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY FEB 28 WHICH WERE REPORTED IN WESTERN PRESS (SEE BERLIN 348 AND BERLIN A-56, BOTH OF 1973). THIS AMOUNTS TO FAIR AMOUNT OF BACKGROUND NOISE AT PERIOD IN WHICH SOVIETS HAD NOT REALLY BEGUN TO FOCUS ON ISSUE OF BERLIN'S RELATIONSHIP TO EC. WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED TO GET A MORE DIRECT REACTION THIS TIME.

GEORGE

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